

BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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COMMISSIONERS

ROBERT "BOB" BURNS - Chairman **BOYD DUNN** SANDRA D. KENNEDY JUSTIN OLSON LEA MÁRQUEZ PETERSON

In the matter of: JEFFREY SCOTT PETERSON (CRD #

MICHAEL D. SILBERMAN (CRD # 2468726) and STACEY SILBERMAN,

2365060), a resident of Ontario, Canada,

husband and wife, residents of California,

JUSTIN C. BILLINGSLEY, a resident of New York,

MOBILE CORPORATION, fka MOBILE.PRO CORPORATION, a Nevada Corporation,

QUEPASA CORPORATION, a Nevada Corporation,

WILSON SONSINI GOODRICH & ROSATI, P.C., a California professional corporation,

Respondents.

DOCKET NO. S-21111A-20-0202

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING PROPOSED REGARDING ORDER TO DESIST. ORDER CEASE AND FOR RESTITUTION, ORDER FOR **ADMINISTRATIVE** PENALTIES AND **OTHER** ORDER FOR **AFFIRMATIVE** ACTION

NOTICE: EACH RESPONDENT HAS 10 DAYS TO REQUEST A HEARING

EACH RESPONDENT HAS 30 DAYS TO FILE AN ANSWER

The Securities Division ("Division") of the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") alleges that respondents Jeffrey Scott Peterson (CRD # 2365060), Michael D. Silberman (CRD # 2468726), Justin C. Billingsley, Mobile Corporation, Quepasa Corporation and Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, P.C. have engaged in acts, practices, and transactions that constitute violations of the Securities Act of Arizona, A.R.S. § 44-1801 et seq. ("Securities Act").

The Division also alleges that Jeffrey Scott Peterson, Michael D. Silberman and Justin C. Billingsley are persons controlling Mobile Corporation within the meaning of A.R.S. § 44-1999(B), so that they are jointly and severally liable under A.R.S. § 44-1999(B) to the same extent as Mobile Corporation for its violations of the antifraud provisions of the Securities Act.

The Division also alleges that Jeffrey Scott Peterson and Michael D. Silberman are persons controlling Quepasa Corporation within the meaning of A.R.S. § 44-1999(B), so that they are jointly and severally liable under A.R.S. § 44-1999(B) to the same extent as Quepasa Corporation for its violations of the antifraud provisions of the Securities Act.

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I. JURISDICTION

 The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Article XV of the Arizona Constitution and the Securities Act.

II. RESPONDENTS

- Respondent Jeffrey Scott Peterson ("Peterson") (CRD # 2365060) currently resides in Ontario, Canada.
- 3. Respondent Michael D. Silberman ("Silberman") (CRD # 2468726) is a resident of California.
 - 4. Respondent Stacey Silberman was at all relevant times the spouse of Silberman.
- 5. At all relevant times, Silberman was acting for his own benefit and for the benefit or in furtherance of his and Stacey Silberman's marital community.
 - 6. Stacey Silberman is joined in this action under A.R.S. § 44-2031(C).
 - 7. Respondent Justin Billingsley ("Billingsley") currently resides in Brewster, New York.
- 8. Respondent Mobile Corporation, formerly known as Mobile.pro Corporation ("Mobile"), is a Nevada corporation formed on March 21, 2013.
- 9. Respondent Quepasa Corporation is a Nevada corporation formed on July 10, 2014, which this Notice refers to as "Quepasa II." There was another Nevada corporation formed on June 25, 1997, that in 1998 changed its name to Quepasa.com, Inc. ("Quepasa I") with which Respondents Peterson and Silberman were affiliated. Quepasa I is not a respondent in this action.
- Respondent Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, P.C. ("Wilson Sonsini" or
 "WSGR") is a California professional corporation and a law firm.
- Peterson, Silberman, Billingsley, Mobile, Quepasa and Wilson Sonsini may be referred to collectively as "Respondents".

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III. OVERVIEW

- 12. This case involves a scheme by Peterson and Billingsley, who are recidivist violators of the Securities Act, and Silberman in which they solicited investments in two companies they controlled, Mobile and Quepasa II. Peterson and Silberman then transferred large portions of the investors' funds away from Mobile and Quepasa II to a third company, Inter123, which Peterson owned and controlled.
- 13. Peterson and Inter123 then used the investors' funds to pay Peterson's legal bills for a lawsuit against his former business associates over issues having nothing to do with Mobile and Quepasa II.
- 14. Peterson, Silberman and Billingsley raised the vast majority of funds from investors in Mobile, which sold more than \$7.5 million in Convertible Promissory Notes, other notes and stock. They represented that Mobile was a startup internet company that aimed to build a globally dominant online brand through its name and eponymous websites, "Mobile.pro", "Mobile.co", and "Mobile.com.co."
- 15. Unbeknownst to investors, however, Mobile did not own any of those domain names. Peterson's closely held company, Inter123, owned them.
- 16. Unbeknownst to investors, Mobile paid at least \$2,273,866 to Inter123 in royalties and other fees to use "Mobile.pro", "Mobile.co," "Mobile.com.co" and variants of those names for its websites.
- 17. Mobile transferred its investors' funds to Inter123 under the guise of licensing agreements between the two companies. Peterson was the CEO of both Mobile and Inter123.
- 18. Under the 2013 Licensing Agreement, Mobile agreed to pay Peterson's other company, Inter123, \$250,000 every three months for the right to use the "Mobile.pro" domain name, which Inter123 had purchased two months earlier for \$3,250.
- 19. Under the 2014 Licensing Agreement, Inter123 acquired the "Mobile.co" domain name for itself by misusing \$250,000 from a Mobile investor. Unbeknownst to that investor (or

Mobile's other investors), Mobile transferred his \$250,000 to Inter123 so Inter123 could acquire the "Mobile.co" domain name. Then, Mobile agreed to pay \$500,000 to Inter123 for the right to use the "Mobile.co" domain name for six months.

- 20. Wilson Sonsini, which was supposed to be ensuring compliance with the securities laws, facilitated the other Respondents' fraud in several ways.
- 21. For instance, Wilson Sonsini drafted and sent to investors Note Purchase Agreements that represented that Mobile "owns or possesses sufficient legal rights" to the names "Mobile.pro", "Mobile.co," "Mobile.com.co", upon which Mobile was supposedly going to create a globally dominant online brand.
- 22. That representation was false or materially misleading because Inter123 owned the rights to those names. Wilson Sonsini knew Mobile was merely licensing the rights to use those names for three (3) months at a time in exchange for \$250,000 royalty payments to Inter123. Wilson Sonsini also knew that Inter123 could cut off Mobile's rights to use those names by terminating the Licensing Agreements with as little as fourteen days' notice.
- 23. Wilson Sonsini also acted as the central banker between the investors on the one hand and Mobile on the other.
- 24. When the other Respondents enticed an investor to invest, Wilson Sonsini instructed the investor to wire his or her investment funds to its IOLTA trust account. Once Wilson Sonsini determined that the investor's subscription documents were acceptable, it wired the investor's funds to Mobile.
- 25. At least eighty-three (83) investors collectively invested more than \$7.5 million in Mobile. With the exception of repayments to two investors totaling \$75,167, Mobile's investors have not received any return or repayment of their \$7.5 million.
- 26. Beginning in mid-2014 and throughout 2015, Peterson and Silberman repeated the same scheme they had perpetrated through Mobile against investors in a new company, Quepasa II.

27. Peterson and Silberman represented that Quepasa II was a startup internet company that would be a Spanish social networking platform through its website "Quepasa.com."

- 28. Unbeknownst to investors, however, Quepasa II did not own the domain name for that website. Peterson's closely held company, Inter123, owned the "Quepasa.com." domain name and licensed it to Quepasa II in exchange for royalty payments.
- 29. As it did for Mobile, Wilson Sonsini drafted and sent to Quepasa II's investors Note Purchase Agreements that misrepresented that Quepasa II "owns or possesses sufficient legal rights" to the Quepasa.com. name upon which it supposedly was going to build a profitable business.
- 30. Wilson Sonsini acted as the central banker in Respondents' Quepasa II scheme by instructing investors to wire their funds to its IOLTA trust account and then wiring those funds on to Quepasa II.
 - 31. Eight (8) investors collectively invested \$255,000 in Quepasa II.
 - 32. Unbeknownst to investors, Quepasa II transferred at least \$170,810 to Inter123.
- 33. Quepasa II's investors have not received any return or repayment of their investments.

IV. FACTS

- A. Peterson's And Silberman's Brief Histories As Arizona Securities Salesmen.
- 34. From July 17, 1995, until December 10, 1996, Peterson was registered through West America Securities Corporation ("West America") with the Commission as a securities salesman. Peterson's registration through West America terminated on December 10, 1996.
- 35. On January 27, 1997, West America reported to the securities industry's Central Registration Depository ("CRD") that a customer had filed a complaint alleging that Peterson instructed him to wire money to the bank account of an alleged partnership. The customer wired the funds. The customer subsequently believed that the partnership never existed. The customer alleged that the bank told him that Peterson was a signatory on the account.

- 36. West America further reported that it attempted to verify that information with the bank but was unable to do so without a subpoena.
- 37. From May 4, 1995, until April 19, 1996, Silberman was registered through Prudential Securities Incorporated ("Prudential") with the Commission as a securities salesman.
- 38. In July 1999, Prudential reported to the CRD that on April 1, 1997, it had settled a 1996 customer complaint alleging Silberman committed fraud and misrepresentation. To settle, Prudential paid \$150,000.00.

B. Quepasa I.

- 39. On June 25, 1997, a company was incorporated in Nevada under the name Internet Century, Inc. In December 1998, it changed its name to Quespasa.com, Inc., which, as noted above, this Notice refers to as "Quepasa I."
- 40. Peterson was Quepasa I's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) from May 1998 until August 1999, and Silberman was Quepasa I's Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and Chief Operating Officer (COO).
- 41. Quepasa I was an internet company that provided users with content centered around the Spanish language. Its internet presence included a search engine, e-mail, Spanish-language news feeds and chat rooms.
- 42. On June 24, 1999, Quepasa I completed an initial public offering ("IPO") and its stock began trading on the Nasdaq National Market.
 - 43. On April 26, 2002, Peterson became the CEO of Quepasa I again.
 - 44. In July 2003, Peterson was appointed to the Arizona-Mexico Commission.

C. Billingsley's Tax Liens.

45. On April 16, 2012, the Internal Review Service ("I.R.S.") recorded a Notice of Federal Tax Lien in Brookfield, Connecticut against Billingsley for \$418,105 in unpaid income taxes from 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 (the "\$418,105 I.R.S. Lien").

46. On June 19, 2012, the I.R.S. recorded another Notice of Federal Tax Lien in Brookfield, Connecticut against Billingsley, this time for \$22,267 in unpaid income taxes from 2011 (the "\$22,267 I.R.S. Lien").

- 47. The records of the Brookfield, Connecticut Town Clerk do not reflect that Billingsley has ever paid off the \$418,105 I.R.S. Lien or the \$22,267 I.R.S. Lien.
 - D. Peterson's And Billingsley's Securities Law Violations With LoanGo.
- 48. In June 2011, Peterson organized a Utah entity, LoanGo Corporation ("LoanGo"), to be an online payday lending company. Peterson was the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Directors of LoanGo. Billingsley was the Vice President and Director of LoanGo.
- 49. From September 2011 to April 2012, LoanGo sold promissory notes for \$250,000 to five investors through Billingsley and Peterson.
- 50. The notes provided that LoanGo would repay the investors their principal plus the accrued interest within 12 months.
 - 51. Between September 2012 and April 2013, LoanGo defaulted on all its notes.
 - 52. LoanGo failed to repay any portion of the investors' funds.
- 53. On June 30, 2015, the Division filed an enforcement action against LoanGo, Peterson, Billingsley and other respondents alleging violations of the registration and antifraud provisions of the Securities Act. *See In the Matter of LoanGo Corporation et al.*, Docket No. S-20932A-15-0220 (filed 6/30/2015).
- 54. A hearing was held in the *LoanGo* case at which Peterson and Billingsley were represented by counsel. Peterson and Billingsley both testified.
- 55. On November 7, 2017, in Decision No. 76450, the Commission found that LoanGo, Peterson and Billingsley had violated the Securities Acts registration provisions, and LoanGo and Billingsley had violated the Act's antifraud provision, A.R.S. § 44-1991.
- 56. The Commission found that at least four of LoanGo's five investors did not receive any documents describing LoanGo before they invested in the company.

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decision.

penalties of \$15,000 each.

the administrative penalties they owe.

corporation formed on September 8, 2006.

Inter123, holding an 89.9 percent interest.

the investors' funds would be used that way.

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64. According to Peterson, he formed Inter123 "for the purpose of owning, investing in and operating technology related companies and assets connected with [his] entrepreneurial activities."

Inter123: Peterson's Closely Held Corporation.

F. Peterson's Expensive Sitesearch Lawsuit.

- 65. In 2012, Peterson began having disputes with some of his business associates concerning companies in which they were involved, including non-party Sitesearch Corporation ("Sitesearch").
 - Inter123 had invested \$100,000 in Sitesearch. 66.

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The Commission further found that Peterson and Billingsley used the investors' funds

The Commission found that Peterson controlled LoanGo and ordered that he be held

The Commission ordered Peterson and Billingsley to pay \$250,000 in restitution for

Neither Peterson nor Billingsley has paid any portion of the \$250,000 in restitution or

The Arizona Superior Court and Court of Appeals affirmed the Commission's LoanGo

Non-party Inter123 Corporation ("Inter123") was Peterson's closely held Nevada

Peterson was the President, Chief Executive Officer and majority shareholder of

to repay themselves for loans Peterson and Billingsley had made to LoanGo, without disclosing that

LoanGo's five investors. The Commission also ordered Peterson and Billingsley to pay administrative

jointly and severally liable with Billingsley and LoanGo for their securities fraud violations.

67. On February 27, 2013, Peterson engaged a prominent Phoenix law firm (the "Phoenix Law Firm") to file a lawsuit on behalf of himself and Inter123 against Sitesearch and his former business associates (the "Sitesearch lawsuit").

- 68. The Phoenix Law Firm's billing rate for its lead partner handling the *Sitesearch* lawsuit was \$760 per hour.
- 69. On March 11, 2013, the Phoenix Law Firm filed the *Sitesearch* lawsuit for Peterson and Inter123 in the Maricopa County Superior Court, Case No. CV2013-002330. The Verified Complaint, including its exhibits, was 90 pages long. It alleged sixteen causes of action, including defamation, intentional infliction of emotional distress, abuse of process, civil conspiracy, misrepresentation, tortious interference with contract and breach of fiduciary duty.
- 70. The Phoenix Law Firm was counsel of record for Peterson and Inter123 in the Sitesearch lawsuit From March 2013 until March 2014, when a new law firm substituted in as counsel for Peterson and Inter123.
- 71. Between March 2013 and April 2014, the Phoenix Law Firm billed Peterson and Inter123 over \$587,900.00.
 - G. Mobile Corporation.
- 72. On March 8, 2013, Inter123 purchased the internet domain name "Mobile.pro" for \$3,250.00.
- 73. On March 21, 2013, Peterson and Silberman incorporated Mobile as "Mobile.pro Corporation" in Nevada. On May 13, 2014, Mobile amended its articles of incorporation to change its name from "Mobile.pro Corporation" to "Mobile Corporation."
- 74. Peterson was the Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer of Mobile.
- 75. Silberman was the Chairman of the Executive Committee of Mobile's Board of Directors. Silberman was also Mobile's Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer.

76. Billingsley was at various times Mobile's Chief Operating Officer, President, Senior Vice President and Vice President.

- 77. Respondents described Mobile as a start-up company that would be "the first-ever social network and online community for mobile professionals. It will become the #1 destination for mobile on the internet."
- 78. By the term "mobile," Respondents referred to wireless and portable devices, including phones and tablets, applications or "apps" for those devices, and mobile commerce conducted through those devices and apps.
- 79. Respondents stated that Mobile would provide an online community and marketplace for individuals and businesses who self-identified as "mobile professionals" to connect, collaborate and do business.
- 80. Respondents stated that Mobile aimed "to create a GLOBAL DOMINANT BRAND via the power of the internet" and "through the Mobile.Pro website...."

1. Mobile Retained Wilson Sonsini As Counsel And Wilson Sonsini Invested In Mobile.

- 81. Wilson Sonsini's website states that it is a law firm whose "legacy closely traces the birth and evolution of Silicon Valley. For nearly six decades, Wilson Sonsini has represented the technology pioneers associated with virtually every milestone innovation." www.wsgr.com (last visited 07/08/2020).
- 82. Wilson Sonsini describes itself as holding a "Strategic Position in the Global Economy." www.wsgr.com (last visited 07/08/2020).
- 83. On March 28, 2013, Mobile retained Wilson Sonsini to provide legal advice and services. According to Wilson Sonsini's engagement agreement of that date, which Silberman signed for Mobile, Wilson Sonsini agreed to provide services "relating to a) the general organizational activities we perform in structuring the Company, b) the pursuit of funding until the Company has received debt or equity financing, and c) licensing diligence and negotiations."

84. The Wilson Sonsini partner who signed the engagement agreement provided some of the firm's billing rates: "I currently bill my services at \$810 per hour. Other attorneys likely to be involved in the representation are \$360-\$700 per hour, and the hourly rates of paralegals likely to be involved in the representation are \$120-\$320 per hour."

85. Wilson Sonsini agreed to allow Mobile to defer and even forgo paying some of its legal fees in exchange for stock and a \$100,000 stock purchase option. Wilson Sonsini's engagement agreement provided in relevant part:

This deferment will continue until the closing of one or a series of related debt or equity financings, the proceeds of which equal or exceed \$500,000, or the Company becomes cash flow positive and is in a position to make payment on the outstanding invoices ("Initial Financing").... In return for the deferral of our payment and the assumption of the risk of non-payment, the Company agrees to issue to us one percent (1.0%) of the initial shares of the Company issued to the founders of the Company prior to the Initial Financing. In addition, WS Investments shall be granted the right to invest up to \$100,000 in stock in the initial preferred stock venture financing of the Company.

[A]s we discussed, if you elect this deferment and the financing condition is never met, WSGR will not seek to collect our fees and the founders of the Company will not be personally liable or responsible for our fees.

- 86. Wilson Sonsini acknowledged that its investment(s) in Mobile would be a conflict of interest under the attorney ethics rules that governed the firm's activities as counsel to Mobile.
- 87. Wilson Sonsini requested that Mobile waive the conflict of interest, which Silberman did for Mobile.
- 88. On April 22, 2013, WS Investment Company, LLC (2013A) and the Wilson Sonsini partner who signed the engagement letter collectively purchased 104,900 shares of Mobile Class A Common Stock for ten dollars and forty-nine cents (\$10.49).
- 89. WS Investment Company, LLC (2013A) is or was one of a series of investment funds managed for the benefit of Wilson Sonsini shareholders and others affiliated with the law firm. Wilson Sonsini or a wholly owned subsidiary of Wilson Sonsini is or was the sole manager of WS Investment Company, LLC (2013A).

90. On June 21, 2013, WS Investment Company, LLC (2013A) and a Wilson Sonsini partner received a \$50,000 Convertible Promissory Note in which WS Investment Company, LLC (2013A) had a 90% interest and the partner had a 10% interest. On July 10, 2015, Mobile converted that note investment and issued WS Investment Company, LLC (2013A) 52,653 shares of Mobile Preferred Series A stock.

91. Wilson Sonsini's investment enabled Mobile to tout that fact to potential investors. For instance, in an email dated October 13, 2013, Mobile's then-President Chris Lopez wrote: "Our law firm for the private placement is Wilson, Sonsini, Goodrich, and Rosati, out of Palo Alto. WSGR, the same firm that represents Google, Twitter, Linkedin, etc., has invested in our venture, something that they do not often do. I would like to get you involved as an investor and there is no better time than now ... as our seed fund is closing quickly."

2. Mobile's Website Was To Be Critical To Its Ability To Generate Revenue.

- 92. Respondents stated that Mobile's website would serve as an entry point to a platform where mobile professionals would come to do business, take online courses, receive "mobile.pro" certifications and interact amongst themselves. Mobile's website would also be where businesses and consumer could come to learn about the mobile market and find professionals to provide website design and app development services.
- 93. As an online marketplace and social network, Mobile's website would be critical to generating revenue for the company. For example, Respondents stated that one of Mobile's key strategies would be to monetize its website traffic.
- 94. In addition, Respondents stated that Mobile, through its website, would act as a broker matching website designers in places such as India or the Philippines with small businesses around the world seeking to build a website. Respondents stated that by brokering website design services, Mobile's website could earn revenue in multiple global markets 24 hours a day.

- 95. Respondents stated Mobile was seeking "sufficient capital investment to transition from an emerging mobile-centric brand with [a] proof-of-concept website and strategy to a thriving business with expanded content and E-commerce revenue channels."
- 96. Investors' monies would be used to bring traffic to Mobile's website, to upgrade the stability and capacity of the website to handle the increased traffic, and to provide content for the website.
- 97. Between 2013 and 2015, Mobile used the domain names "Mobile.pro", "Mobile.co" and "Mobile.com.co" for its English language website, and "Movil.pro" and "Movil.co" for its Spanish language website. "Movil" is Spanish for "mobile."
 - 98. Mobile did not own any of those domain names, however.
- 99. Peterson's closely held company, Inter123, owned the domain names "Mobile.pro", "Mobile.co," "Mobile.com.co.", "Movil.pro" and "Movil.co"
- 100. Unbeknownst to investors, Mobile paid at least \$2,273,866 to Inter123 in royalties and other fees to use the "Mobile.pro", "Mobile.co," "Mobile.com.co," "Movil.pro" and "Movil.co" names for its websites.
 - 3. The 2013 License Agreement: Mobile Agreed To Pay Peterson's Closely Held Company \$1 Million Per Year To Use The Names of Mobile's Websites.
- 101. As alleged above, on March 8, 2013, Inter123 purchased the domain name "Mobile.pro" for \$3,250. On March 21, 2013, Peterson and Silberman incorporated Mobile as "Mobile.pro Corporation."
- 102. On May 16, 2013, Mobile entered a Trademark License Agreement with Inter123 (the "2013 License Agreement") under which Mobile agreed to pay \$250,000 every three (3) months for the rights to use the domain names "Mobile.pro" and "Movil.pro" and the trademarks "Mobile.pro," "Movil.pro" and variants of those names.
- 103. The Phoenix Law Firm that was counsel for Peterson and Inter123 in the *Sitesearch* lawsuit negotiated the 2013 License Agreement for Inter123.

104. Wilson Sonsini negotiated the 2013 License Agreement for Mobile.

- 105. Under the 2013 License Agreement, Mobile agreed to pay Inter123 a royalty of \$250,000 for the "Initial Term," which was defined as three months.
- 106. In exchange, Inter123 granted Mobile the right to use the "Mobile.pro" and "Movil.pro" domain names and trademarks "in connection with a website and online community dedicated the field of mobile computing, mobile devices, mobile applications, careers in the mobile computing area, and the promotion of mobile computing...."
- 107. The 2013 License Agreement provided that all goodwill Mobile generated by its use of the "Mobile.pro" and "Movil.pro" domain names and trademarks would belong exclusively to Inter123.
- 108. Unless one of the parties terminated the License Agreement, it automatically renewed for three-month intervals, with each being a "Renewal Term."
- 109. For each 3-month Renewal Term, Mobile agreed to pay Inter123 a royalty of \$250,000.
- 110. The 2013 License Agreement provided that a Wilson Sonsini attorney was to receive a copy of any notice sent to Mobile.
- 111. Either party could terminate the Licensing Agreement by providing written notice fourteen (14) days prior to the expiration of the Initial Term or seven (7) days prior to the expiration of a Renewal Term.
- 112. The 2013 License Agreement provided that upon termination, Mobile was required immediately to: (i) cease using the "Mobile.pro" and "Movil.pro" domain names and trademarks; (ii) turn over to Inter123 "access to any social networking sites used by [Mobile]"; and (iii) change its corporate name and "replace it with another term not likely to be confused with MOBIL.PRO [sic]...." The 2013 License Agreement further provided: "Licensee shall not be able to continue to use the name MOBILE.PRO CORPORATION after the termination of this Agreement."

- 113. Before Mobile entered the 2013 License Agreement, it was presented to Mobile's Board of Directors during a telephonic meeting on May 16, 2013.
- 114. The Wilson Sonsini attorney who negotiated the 2013 Licensing Agreement for Mobile took the minutes of the May 16, 2013, telephonic meeting.
 - 115. Peterson, the Chairman of Mobile's Board of Directors, called the meeting to order.
- 116. The minutes reflect that the attorney from the Phoenix Law Firm who negotiated the 2013 Licensing Agreement for Inter123, not Mobile, reviewed the Agreement's terms for Mobile's Board of Directors.
- 117. Peterson knew his other company, Inter123, had acquired the "Mobile.pro" domain name two months earlier for \$3,250.
- 118. Peterson recused himself from voting on whether Mobile should enter the 2013 Licensing Agreement with Inter123.
- 119. But neither Peterson, nor Inter123's attorney, nor the Wilson Sonsini attorney, nor anyone else informed Mobile's Directors that Inter123 had recently acquired the "Mobile.pro" domain name for \$3,250.
- 120. None of Mobile's Directors questioned the valuation of the domain names and trademarks for which Mobile would pay \$250,000 every three months to use. There was no discussion of whether that was a fair royalty fee.
- 121. None of Mobile's Directors nor the Wilson Sonsini attorney questioned why Mobile would pay a royalty to Peterson's other company for the right to use the "Mobile.pro" and "Movil.pro" names.
- 122. There was no discussion of why Mobile would brand itself and build an online business using domain names and trademarks Mobile did not own and for which it had to pay Peterson's other company \$250,000 every three months to use.
- 123. The Wilson Sonsini attorney present at that meeting, who was supposed to be representing Mobile's interests and not those of Peterson, did not raise any of these issues. He did not

offer Mobile's Directors any advice or other information about the 2013 Licensing Agreement he had negotiated.

124. Mobile's Board of Directors voted to approve the 2013 Licensing Agreement, under which Mobile agreed to pay Peterson's other company \$250,000 every three months for a domain name it had purchased two months earlier for \$3,250.

4. Mobile's Offering And Sale Of Convertible Promissory Notes.

- 125. Between April 24, 2013, and October 15, 2014, Mobile sold at least 79 Convertible Promissory Notes (each a "Note") to 74 investors in the total amount of \$6,744,005.00.
- 126. To sell its Notes, Mobile solicited investors through Peterson's and Silberman's contacts from Quepasa I, and Peterson's connections from the Arizona-Mexico Commission and Arizona politics. Mobile also enlisted Billingsley to solicit investors.
- 127. Like the investors in Peterson's and Billingsley's prior company, LoanGo, many investors in Mobile did not receive any documents describing Mobile before they invested.
- 128. Investors were told that Mobile was developing an online platform to connect employers with prospective employees globally, and Mobile would use their investment funds for operating capital.
- 129. Investors were told that within a few years their Note investments would be converted to shares of Mobile stock. Investors were further told that Mobile planned to do an initial public offering (IPO), at which point their stock would likely increase significantly in value.
- 130. In his sales pitch, Billingsley told at least two Arizona investors that Mobile's founders, Peterson and Silberman, had made millions of dollars by founding and successfully running Quepasa
 I. Billingsley told those investors he was on Mobile's Board of Directors, which he was not.
- 131. Billingsley told those investors that Mobile had hired a large law firm, Wilson Sonsini, to review all the investment paperwork to make sure everything was done properly.
- 132. Mobile's use of Wilson Sonsini gave those investors' confidence that the investment had been properly vetted.

- 133. The investors were instructed to send their executed investment documents to Wilson Sonsini, and to wire their investment funds to Wilson Sonsini's Interest on Lawyers Trust Account, an "IOLTA" trust account.
- 134. Each Note provided that Mobile would pay the investor the outstanding principal amount of their investment plus 8.0% annual interest upon the earlier of the "Maturity Date," which was defined as October 24, 2014, or an elected date thereafter; or upon default.
- 135. Each Note provided that if Mobile sold at least \$3,000,000 of Preferred Stock prior to the Maturity Date, "then the outstanding principal amount of this Note and all accrued interest shall automatically convert into a number of fully paid and nonassesable shares of the Preferred Stock equal to the then outstanding principal amount of this Note plus accrued but unpaid interest *times* 0.67...."
- 136. Mobile sold each Note pursuant a Note Purchase Agreement, which Wilson Sonsini prepared.
- 137. Each Note Purchase Agreement provided: "The sale and purchase of the Notes shall take place at a closing to be held ... at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, P.C. ... or such other place and time as the Company and the Investors may determine...."
- 138. Each Note Purchase Agreement further provided: "Use of Proceeds. The proceeds of the sale and issuance of the Notes shall be used for general corporate purposes."
 - 139. Each Note Purchase Agreement represented:

Intellectual Property. To the best of its knowledge, the Company owns or possesses sufficient legal rights to all patents, trademarks, service marks, trade names, copyrights, trade secrets, licenses, information, processes and other intellectual property rights necessary for its business as now conducted and as currently proposed to be conducted without any conflict with, or infringement of the rights of, others.

140. That representation was false or misleading because Mobile, Peterson, Silberman and Wilson Sonsini knew:

- a) Mobile did not own the "Mobile.pro" and "Movil.pro" domain names and trademarks that were necessary for its business and for which it sought investors' funds to create a globally dominant brand through those websites;
- b) Mobile was licensing the legal rights to use those domain names and trademarks from Inter123 for three-month terms;
- c) Inter123 could terminate Mobile's rights to use those domain names and trademarks by providing only seven or fourteen days written notice before the end of the Initial Term or a Renewal Term; and
- d) upon termination, Mobile was required immediately to: (i) cease using the "Mobile.pro" and "Movil.pro" domain names and trademarks; (ii) turn over to Inter123 access to any social networking sites used by Mobile, which were to be central to Mobile's business and profitability; and (iii) change its corporate name to something not likely to be confused with Mobile.
- 141. For the sale of Mobile's Notes, Wilson Sonsini drafted the Note Purchase Agreements and sent the investors the subscription documents, including the Note Purchase Agreements, Notes, suitability questionnaires, signing instructions and instructions for the investors to wire their funds to Wilson Sonsini's IOLTA account.
- 142. According to Peterson, after Wilson Sonsini received the investors' funds into its IOLTA trust account, "WSGR inspected each investor subscription individually" and determined "that each subscription was acceptable under state and federal securities laws...."
- 143. Wilson Sonsini advised some investors how to revise their answers on the suitability questionnaire and answered other investors' questions.
- 144. Peterson believes that Wilson Sonsini rejected one potential investor's subscription to invest in Mobile. Wilson Sonsini accepted 74 other investors' subscriptions.
- 145. According to Peterson, after determining that the investor's subscription was acceptable, Wilson Sonsini wired the investor's funds to Mobile.

- 146. Between May 16, 2013, and August 30, 2014, which was the period the 2013 Licensing Agreement was in effect:
- a) Wilson Sonsini transferred at least \$3,122,005 to Mobile's JPMorgan Chase Bank Account ending in Xx2328 ("Mobile's Chase Account Xx2328"). The \$3,122,005 from Wilson Sonsini constituted at least 70.18% of all deposits to Mobile's Chase Account Xx2328 during that period.
- b) Mobile transferred at least \$1,314,589.75 from its Chase Account Xx2328 to Inter123's Bank of America Account ending in Xx7824 ("Inter123's BofA Account Xx7824"). The \$1,314,589.75 from Mobile constituted at least 93.97% of all deposits to Inter123's BofA Account Xx7824 during that period.
- c) Inter123 paid at least \$320,000 from its BofA Account Xx7824 to the Phoenix Law Firm that represented Peterson and Inter123 in the *Sitesearch* lawsuit. Of those payments, at least 45% were funds that Mobile's investors sent to Wilson Sonsini for their investments in Mobile.
 - 147. Respondents did not disclose to Mobile investors that:
 - a) Mobile did not own the domain names or trademarks for its websites, "Mobile.pro", "Mobile.co," "Mobile.com.co," "Movil.pro" and "Movil.co";
 - Inter123, the closely held company of Mobile's CEO, Peterson, owned those domain names and trademarks;
 - c) Inter123 acquired the "Mobile.pro" domain name for \$3,250 shortly before
 Peterson incorporated Mobile and began seeking investors' money;
 - d) Mobile agreed to pay Inter123 \$250,000 every three months (\$1,000,000 per year) for the rights to use "Mobile.pro" and "Movil.pro";
 - e) Mobile was using its investors' funds to pay \$250,000 every three months (\$1,000,000 per year) to Inter123; and
 - f) Inter123 was using Mobile investors' funds to pay the Phoenix Law Firm's bills to Inter123 and Peterson for their Sitesearch lawsuit.

148. No reasonable investor would have invested if Respondents had disclosed the facts set forth in subparagraphs (a) through (f) of the preceding paragraph.

- 149. Further, Respondents also did not disclose to Mobile investors that:
- a) Peterson's and Billingsley's previous company, LoanGo, defaulted on all of its promissory notes and LoanGo's investors lost all of their investments;
- b) Billingsley, who served as Mobile's President, Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President, owed over \$440,000 in liens to the I.R.S. for unpaid taxes dating back to 2007; and
- c) Mobile's CFO, Silberman, had been the subject of a customer complaint alleging he committed fraud and misrepresentation when he was a securities salesman with Prudential, and Prudential paid \$150,000.00 to settle that complaint.
 - 5. The 2014 Licensing Agreement: Mobile Misused Investor Funds To Finance Inter123's Purchase Of The "Mobile.Co" Domain Name. Then, Inter123 Charged Mobile \$500,000 For The Right To Use The "Mobile.Co" Domain Name, And Mobile Paid The \$500,000 With More Investor Funds.
- 150. On February 28, 2014, Inter123 agreed to purchase the internet domain name "Mobile.co" for \$59,000.00. The seller was located in Lebanon.
- 151. Pursuant to the Purchase and Sale Agreement dated February 28, 2014, Inter123 was required to send the \$59,000 purchase price within six (6) days.
- 152. On March 3, 2014, Mobile's Chase Account Xx2328 had a beginning balance of \$18,617.89. An investor whom this Notice shall refer to as "John Doe 1" wired \$50,000 into the Chase Account for an investment. An additional \$5,345.30 was deposited.
- 153. On March 3, 2014, Inter123's BofA Account Xx7824 had a beginning balance of \$8,644.92.
- 154. On March 3, 2014, Mobile wired \$60,000 from its Chase Account Xx2328 to Inter123's BofA Account Xx7824. At least \$36,036.81, of the \$60,000 were funds from Mobile investor John Doe 1.

- 155. On March 3, 2014, Inter123 wired \$59,000 from its BofA Account Xx7824 for the "Mobile.co" domain name purchase price. At least \$27,391.89 of the \$59,000 were funds from Mobile investor John Doe 1.
- 156. Despite the \$59,000 transfer, Inter123 did not complete its purchase of the "Mobile.co" domain name at that time.
- 157. In late July 2014, Inter123 agreed to pay \$239,000 for the "Mobile.co" domain name to the same seller in Lebanon.
- 158. On July 29, 2014, Inter123's BofA Account Xx7824 had a negative ending balance of -\$667.86.
- 159. On July 30 2014, Mobile's Chase Account Xx2328 had a beginning balance of \$12,722.07.
- 160. On July 30, 2014, an investor whom this Notice shall refer to as "John Doe 2" wired \$250,000 into Mobile's Chase account. In return, Mobile issued John Doe 2 a promissory note for \$250,000.
- 161. Also on July 30, 2014, after it received John Doe 2's \$250,000 investment, Mobile wired \$250,000 from its Chase Account Xx2328 to Inter123's BofA Account Xx7824. At least \$237,277.93 of the \$250,000 were funds from Mobile investor John Doe 2.
- 162. On July 30, 2014, Inter123 wired \$239,000 plus a \$2,227.10 escrow fee from its BofA Account Xx7824 for the "Mobile.co" domain name purchase price.
 - 163. Inter123's purchase of the "Mobile.co" domain name closed on August 5, 2014.
- 164. At least \$237,277.93 of the \$239,000 purchase price and \$2,227.10 escrow fee that Inter123 used to acquire the "Mobile.co" domain name were funds from Mobile investor John Doe 2.
- 165. John Doe 2 did not authorize Mobile to use his funds to finance Inter123's acquisition of the "Mobile.co" domain name. Before John Doe 2 invested \$250,000, he had been told Mobile would use his money to acquire the "Mobile.co" domain name.

166. Effective September 1, 2014, Mobile entered another Trademark License Agreement with Inter123 (the "2014 License Agreement"). Mobile agreed to pay Inter123 \$500,000 for the rights to use the domain names and trademarks "Mobile.co", "Movil.co", "Mobile.pro", "Movil.pro" and variants of those names for six months until March 31, 2015, when the agreement terminated.

- 167. In the 2014 License Agreement, Mobile agreed that its \$250,000 wire to Inter123 on July 30, 2014, was an "Acquisition Fee" to reimburse Inter123 for its costs to acquire the "Mobile.co" domain name.
- 168. Like the 2013 License Agreement, the 2014 License Agreement provided: (i) all goodwill Mobile generated by its use of "Mobile.co" and the other domain names and trademarks would belong exclusively to Inter123; and (ii) upon termination, Mobile was required immediately to cease using the domain names and trademarks and turn over to Inter123 "access to any social networking sites used by [Mobile]."
- 169. The 2014 License Agreement also provided that a Wilson Sonsini attorney was to receive a copy of any notice sent to Mobile.
- 170. The 2014 License Agreement was presented to Mobile's Board of Directors during a telephonic meeting on October 6, 2014.
- 171. The Wilson Sonsini attorney who was to receive a copy of any notice sent to Mobile under the 2014 Licensing Agreement took the minutes of the meeting.
- 172. The minutes of the meeting reflect that Peterson abstained from voting on the 2014 Licensing Agreement with Inter123.
 - 173. The minutes of the meeting, however, do not reflect that:
- a) Peterson, Silberman, who was the CFO of both Mobile and Inter123, informed Mobile's Directors that Inter123 had acquired the "Mobile.co" domain name by using Mobile investor John Doe 2's \$250,000;
- b) Any of Mobile's Directors questioned the valuation of the domain names and trademarks for which Mobile would pay Inter123 \$500,000 to use for six months;

- c) Any of Mobile's Directors, or the Wilson Sonsini attorney, questioned why Mobile would pay a royalty to Peterson's other company for the right to use the "Mobile.co" and "Movil.co" names and variants of those names; or
- d) There was any discussion of why Mobile would brand itself and build an online business using domain names and trademarks Mobile did not own and for which it had to pay Peterson's other company \$500,000 to use for six months.
- 174. The minutes taken by the Wilson Sonsini attorney, who was supposed to be representing Mobile's interests and not those of Peterson, do not reflect that he raised any of these issues or that he offered Mobile's Directors any advice or other information about the 2014 Licensing Agreement.
- 175. Mobile's Board of Directors voted to approve the 2014 Licensing Agreement, under which Mobile agreed to pay Peterson's other company \$500,000 to use the "Mobile.co" name, which Inter123 had acquired using \$250,000 from Mobile investor John Doe 2.
- 176. Between September 1, 2014, and March 31, 2015, which was the period when the 2014 Licensing Agreement was in effect:
- a) Wilson Sonsini transferred at least \$2,725,111.60 to Mobile's Chase Account Xx2328. The \$2,725,111.60 from Wilson Sonsini constituted 98.09% of all deposits to Mobile's Chase Account Xx2328 during that period.
- b) Mobile transferred at least \$625,000 from its Chase Account Xx2328 to Inter123's BofA Account Xx7824. The \$625,000 from Mobile constituted 90.16% of all deposits to Inter123's BofA Account Xx7824 during that period.
- c) Inter123 paid at least \$150,000 from its BofA Account Xx7824 to the Phoenix Law Firm that represented Peterson and Inter123 in the *Sitesearch* lawsuit. Of those payments, at least \$146,983.44, or 97.98%, were funds originating from Mobile's investors.
- 177. Similar to how Peterson used LoanGo investors' money without their knowledge to repay a loan he made to LoanGo, Peterson, through Mobile's transfers to Inter123, used Mobile

investors' money without their knowledge to pay attorneys' fees he incurred in his unrelated Sitesearch lawsuit.

178. In 2017, in correspondence with a former member of Mobile's Board of Directors who questioned where all the Mobile investors' funds went, Peterson answered, "[T]he two biggest beneficiaries of money raised are grupo Carso, in mexico city, where we leased a big office that was never used, and [the Phoenix Law Firm]," which represented Peterson and Inter123 in the *Sitesearch* lawsuit.

6. Mobile's Sales Of Preferred Stock.

- 179. Between January 12 and August 3, 2015, Mobile sold at least nine (9) investors shares of its preferred stock.
 - 180. Mobile raised at least \$498,460 from these stock sales.

7. Mobile Used Arizona As A Base Of Its Operations.

- 181. While he was Mobile's Chairman and CEO, Peterson filed a Declaration in the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona stating, "I am a resident of Arizona and have significant ties in that state."
 - 182. Mobile had offices and employed personnel in Mesa, Arizona.
- 183. Mobile's President from August 19, 2013, until September 29, 2014, Christopher G. Lopez, lived in and operated from Arizona.
 - 184. Several of Mobile's other officers and directors also lived in Arizona.
- 185. Mobile touted its officers', directors' and advisors' Arizona connections to investors.
- 186. The 2013 and 2014 License Agreements between Mobile and Inter123 provided for Arizona law to govern and for any disputes to be litigated in either state or federal court in Phoenix, Arizona.

H. Quepasa II.

- 187. On July 10, 2014, Peterson formed Quepasa Corporation, which this Notice refers to as Quepasa II, as a Nevada corporation.
- 188. Two weeks earlier, on June 26, 2014, Silberman had engaged Wilson Sonsini as counsel for what was to become Quepasa II.
 - 189. Peterson was the President of Quepasa II.
 - 190. Silberman was a Director and the Treasurer and Secretary of Quepasa II.
- 191. In the summer of 2014, Peterson asked an individual, "MA", whom he knew from serving on the Arizona-Mexico Commission, to come to work for Quepasa II, which he described as a "relaunch of Quepasa" that he was starting.
- 192. Approximately three weeks later, MA met with Peterson in Phoenix, Arizona. Peterson told MA he was creating a second iteration of Quepasa, a company MA knew Peterson founded many years earlier. Peterson stated he wanted to create a new Quepasa that would be a Spanish version of Facebook.
- 193. In approximately September 2014, MA signed a two-year employment agreement with Quepasa II as its Vice President of Business Development. When MA joined Quepasa II, Peterson was living in the Palomar Hotel in Phoenix, Arizona.
- 194. After joining Quepasa II, MA contacted friends and business associates whom MA thought would be interested in investing. MA set up approximately 10-12 meetings with friends or business associates to learn more about Quepasa II after they expressed initial interest. Peterson or Billingsley accompanied MA to those meetings with the prospective investors.
- 195. MA introduced Peterson to an Arizona investor who invested \$25,000 in Quepasa II in March 2015. When they solicited his investment, MA and Peterson told the investor that Quepasa II Quepasa would be a web-based company that would cater to businesses as a platform for innovation. They told him Quepasa II's website would provide the opportunity for employers

and those seeking work with specific skills to connect with each other and enter into employment agreements through the website.

- 196. MA and Peterson told the investor he would receive a Convertible Promissory Note that would be convertible to shares of Quepasa II stock.
- 197. MA and Peterson further told the investor that Quepasa II was planning an initial public offering (IPO). The investor believed his investment would become profitable when his Convertible Promissory Note was converted to Quepasa II stock and then the IPO occurred.
- 198. The investor initially wanted to invest \$10,000 in Quepasa II but Peterson told him the minimum investment amount was \$25,000.
- 199. On March 24, 2015, the investor wired \$25,000 to Wilson Sonsini for his investment in Quepasa II. The investor received a Quepasa Convertible Promissory Note in return.
- 200. The investor specifically asked Peterson what his investment monies would be used for. Peterson answered that the investment would be used to pay programmers in Mexico and the Philippines who were developing the Quepasa II website.
- 201. At no time before this investor invested in Quepasa II did Peterson or MA mention Mobile or that Peterson was also trying to launch another company. That information would have been a significant factor as to whether the investor would have invested in Quepasa II.
- 202. In April 2015, Quepasa II had an event at a gallery in Phoenix for potential investors that approximately 30 people attended.
- 203. Peterson and Silberman spoke at the event. Peterson stated that Quepasa II would be a social networking website with a Hispanic focus.
- 204. Peterson stated that a business would be able to use Quepasa II's website if it was looking for another business to hire or an individual with whom to collaborate.
- 205. Either Peterson or Silberman stated Quepasa II was going to build an online forum that would bring entrepreneurs and investors together.

206. Neither Peterson nor Silberman informed the attendees that they were also attempting to launch Mobile at the same time as Quepasa II.

- 207. Two investors who invested following the gallery event were both unaware of Mobile when they invested in Quepasa II. Neither investor would have invested in Quepasa II if Respondents had made them aware of Mobile because the two companies had similar business plans and could have competed against each other.
- 208. Peterson told the attendees at the gallery event that he had several large investors who were willing to fund the Quepasa comeback, and that he had a great love for Arizona, Arizona citizens, and especially the Hispanic community in Arizona. Peterson told the attendees he wanted to give back to Arizona, and as a result, he was going to allow smaller investors to invest in and profit from Quepasa's comeback.
- 209. Attendees who wanted to invest or learn more about Quepasa II were invited to participate in a conference call a few days later.
- 210. On that conference call, the prospective investors were told that all their investment paperwork would be handled by a prominent Silicon Valley law firm that specialized in internet startups.
- 211. Quepasa II's use of a prestigious law firm gave at least two investors who invested after that call added confidence in the investment opportunity.
- 212. The investors were told their investments would take the form of loans to Quepasa II that it would use to fund the development of its website. The investors were further told that Quepasa II would issue notes for their investments, which would later be converted to stock.
- 213. The investors were further told their investments would yield a profit when Quepasa II went public through an IPO.
- 214. The investors on the conference call were not informed that their investments in Quepasa II would be used by or transferred to another company. Had they been informed that any

part of their Quepasa II investments would be used for another company, that information would have been a significant factor as to whether they wanted to invest in Quepasa II.

- 215. From August 26, 2014, through November 12, 2015, Quepasa Corporation (Quepasa II) sold Convertible Promissory Notes totaling at least \$255,000 to eight (8) investors in amounts ranging from \$100,000 down to \$5,000.
- 216. The investors were instructed to send their executed investment documents to Wilson Sonsini, and to wire their investment funds to Wilson Sonsini's IOLTA trust account.
- 217. Each Note provided that Quepasa II would pay the investor the outstanding principal amount of their investment plus 8.0% annual interest upon the earlier of the "Maturity Date," which was defined as August 25, 2015, or an elected date thereafter; or upon default.
- 218. Each Note provided that if Quepasa II sold at least \$3,000,000 of Preferred Stock prior to the Maturity Date, "then the outstanding principal amount of this Note and all accrued interest shall automatically convert into ... Preferred Stock ... at a price per share of 75% of the price per share paid by the cash purchasers of the Preferred Stock...."
- 219. Quepasa II sold each Note pursuant a Note Purchase Agreement, which Wilson Sonsini prepared.
- 220. Each Note Purchase Agreement provided: "The initial sale and purchase of the Notes shall take place at a closing to be held ... at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, P.C. ... or such other place and time as the Company and the Investors may determine..."
- 221. Each Note Purchase Agreement further provided: "Use of Proceeds. The proceeds of the sale and issuance of the Notes shall be used for general corporate purposes."
 - 222. Each Note Purchase Agreement represented:

Intellectual Property. To the best of its knowledge, the Company owns or possesses sufficient legal rights to all patents, trademarks, service marks, trade names, copyrights, trade secrets, licenses. information, processes and other intellectual property rights necessary for its business as now conducted and as currently proposed to be conducted without any conflict with, or infringement of the rights of, others.

- 223. That representation was false or misleading because Quepasa II did not own the "Quepasa.com" and "Quepasa.co" domain names that were necessary for its business.
- 224. Unbeknownst to investors, Peterson's closely held company, Inter123, owned those domain names and licensed them to Quepasa in exchange for royalty payments.
- 225. Investors would not have invested in Quepasa II if they had known: (i) Quepasa II did not own the "Quepasa.com" and "Quepasa.co" domain names that were necessary for its business, or (ii) Quepasa II was paying Peterson's Inter123 for the rights to use those names.
 - 226. Respondents also did not disclose to Quepasa II investors that:
- a) Peterson's previous company, LoanGo, defaulted on all of its promissory notes
 and LoanGo's investors lost all of their investments;
- b) Quepasa II's CFO, Silberman, had been the subject of a customer complaint alleging he committed fraud and misrepresentation when he was a securities salesman with Prudential, and Prudential paid \$150,000.00 to settle that complaint; or
- Peterson and Silberman were trying to start Mobile at the same time they were trying to start Quepasa II.
- 227. For the sale of Quepasa II's Notes, Wilson Sonsini drafted the Note Purchase Agreements and sent the investors the subscription documents, including the Note Purchase Agreements, Notes, suitability questionnaires, signing instructions and instructions for the investors to wire their funds to Wilson Sonsini's IOLTA account.
- 228. After determining that the investor's subscription was acceptable, Wilson Sonsini wired the investor's funds to Quepasa II.
- 229. Unbeknownst to investors, between May 8 and December 12, 2015, Quepasa II paid at least \$170,810.26 to Inter123.
- 230. Unbeknownst to investors, between November 17, 2014 and December 11, 2015, Quepasa II transferred at least \$88,000 to Mobile.

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I. Wilson Sonsini's Fees And The Investors' Losses.

- 231. Mobile paid Wilson Sonsini \$239,380.46.
- 232. Quepasa II paid Wilson Sonsini \$11,861.
- 233. Eight (8) investors collectively invested \$255,000 in Quepasa II. Those investors have not received any return or repayment.
- At least eighty-three (83) investors collectively invested more than \$7.5 million in 234. Mobile. With the exception of repayments to two investors totaling \$75,167, Mobile's investors have not received any return or repayment of their \$7.5 million.

V. VIOLATION OF A.R.S. § 44-1841

(Offer or Sale of Unregistered Securities)

- 235. From April 24, 2013, through August 3, 2015, Respondents Mobile, Peterson, Silberman, Billingsley and Wilson Sonsini made, participated in or induced the offer and sale of securities in the form of Mobile's Convertible Promissory Notes, other promissory notes and stock totaling at least \$7,542,465, within or from Arizona.
- Mobile's Convertible Promissory Notes were securities within the meaning of A.R.S. § 236. 44-1801.
- 237. The other promissory notes Mobile sold, including the \$250,000 promissory note to Mobile investor John Doe 2, were securities within the meaning of A.R.S. § 44-1801.
 - 238. Mobile's stock was a security within the meaning of A.R.S. § 44-1801.
- 239. From August 26, 2014, through November 12, 2015, Respondents Quepasa Corporation (Quepasa II), Peterson, Silberman, Billingsley and Wilson Sonsini made, participated in or induced the offer and sale of securities in the form of Quepasa II's Convertible Promissory Notes totaling at least \$255,000, within or from Arizona.
- 240. Quepasa II's Convertible Promissory Notes were securities within the meaning of A.R.S. § 44-1801.

- 241. The securities referred to above were not registered pursuant to Articles 6 or 7 of the Securities Act.
 - 242. This conduct violates A.R.S. § 44-1841.

VI. VIOLATION OF A.R.S. § 44-1842

(Transactions by Unregistered Dealers or Salesmen)

- 243. Respondents made, participated in or induced the offer and sale of securities within or from Arizona while not registered as dealers or salesmen pursuant to Article 9 of the Securities Act.
 - 244. This conduct violates A.R.S. § 44-1842.

VII. VIOLATION OF A.R.S. § 44-1991

(Fraud in Connection with the Offer or Sale of Mobile's Securities)

- 245. From April 24, 2013 through August 3, 2015, Respondents Mobile, Peterson, Silberman, Billingsley and Wilson Sonsini made, participated in or induced the unlawful sales or purchases of securities in violation of A.R.S. § 44-1991. Specifically, in connection with the offer or sale of securities within or from Arizona, Mobile, Peterson, Silberman, Billingsley and Wilson Sonsini directly or indirectly: (i) employed a device, scheme, or artifice to defraud; (ii) made untrue statements of material fact or omitted to state material facts that were necessary in order to make the statements made not misleading in light of the circumstances under which they were made; or (iii) engaged in transactions, practices, or courses of business that operated or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon offerees and investors.
- 246. The conduct by Respondents Mobile, Peterson, Silberman, Billingsley and Wilson Sonsini includes, but is not limited to, the following:
- a) Misrepresenting in the Note Purchase Agreements Wilson Sonsini drafted and sent to investors that Mobile "owns or possesses sufficient legal rights" to the domain names and trademarks that were necessary for its business, including "Mobile.pro", "Movil.pro", "Mobile.co", "Movil.co" and "Mobile.com.co";
 - b) Failing to disclose to investors that:

- Mobile was licensing the legal rights to use those domain names and trademarks from Inter123 for three-month terms under the 2013 Licensing Agreement and a six-month term under the 2014 Licensing Agreement;
- ii) Inter123 could terminate Mobile's rights to use those domain names and trademarks by providing only seven or fourteen days written notice before the end of the Initial Term or a Renewal Term;
- iii) If Inter123 terminated the Licensing Agreements, Mobile was required immediately to: (a) cease using the "Mobile.pro" and "Movil.pro" domain names and trademarks; (b) turn over to Inter123 access to any social networking sites used by Mobile, which were to be central to Mobile's business and profitability; and (c) change its corporate name to something not likely to be confused with Mobile;
- iv) Under the 2013 Licensing Agreement, Mobile was paying Inter123 \$250,000 every three months (\$1,000,000 per year) from the investors' funds for the rights to use the "Mobile.pro" and "Movil.pro" names; and
- v) Under the 2014 Licensing Agreement, Mobile was paying Inter123 \$500,000 from the investors' funds for the rights to use the domain name "Mobile.co", which Inter123 had acquired using Mobile investor John Doe 2's funds.
- 247. In addition, the conduct by Respondents Mobile, Peterson, Silberman and Billingsley includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - a) Failing to disclose to investors:
 - i) Inter123 acquired the "Mobile.pro" domain name for \$3,250 shortly before Peterson incorporated Mobile and began seeking investors' money;
 - ii) Inter123 was using Mobile investors' funds to pay the Phoenix Law Firm's bills to Inter123 and Peterson for their *Sitesearch* lawsuit;

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iii) Peterson's and Billingsley's previous company, LoanGo, defaulted on all of its promissory notes and LoanGo's investors lost all of their investments;

- iv) Billingsley, who served as Mobile's President, Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President, owed over \$440,000 in liens to the I.R.S. for unpaid taxes dating back to 2007;
- Mobile's CFO, Silberman, had been the subject of a customer V) complaint alleging he committed fraud and misrepresentation when he was a securities salesman with Prudential, and Prudential paid \$150,000.00 to settle that complaint; and
- b) Misusing the \$250,000 John Doe 2 invested in Mobile on July 30, 2014, by wiring it to Inter123 so that Inter123 could acquire the "Mobile.co" domain name.
 - 248. This conduct violates A.R.S. § 44-1991.

VIII. VIOLATION OF A.R.S. § 44-1991

(Fraud in Connection with the Offer or Sale of Quepasa II's Securities)

- 249. From August 26, 2014, through November 12, 2015, Respondents Quepasa Corporation (Quepasa II), Peterson, Silberman, Billingsley and Wilson Sonsini made, participated in or induced the unlawful sales or purchases of securities in violation of A.R.S. § 44-1991. Specifically, in connection with the offer or sale of securities within or from Arizona, Quepasa II, Peterson, Silberman, Billingsley and Wilson Sonsini directly or indirectly: (i) employed a device, scheme, or artifice to defraud; (ii) made untrue statements of material fact or omitted to state material facts that were necessary in order to make the statements made not misleading in light of the circumstances under which they were made; or (iii) engaged in transactions, practices, or courses of business that operated or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon offerees and investors.
- 250. The conduct by Respondents Quepasa II, Peterson, Silberman, Billingsley and Wilson Sonsini includes, but is not limited to, the following:

	a)	Misrepresenting in the Note Purchase Agreements Wilson Sonsini drafted and
sent to inves	tors that	Quepasa II "owns or possesses sufficient legal rights" to the domain names that
were necessa	ry for its	business, including "Quepasa.com" and "Quepasa.co";

- b) Failing to disclose to investors that:
 - Quepasa II was licensing the legal rights to use those domain names and trademarks from Inter123;
 - ii) Peterson and Silberman were trying to start Mobile at the same time they were trying to start Quepasa II; and
 - iii) Quepasa II would transfer more than \$170,000 to Peterson's closely held company, Inter123.
- 251. In addition, the conduct by Respondents Quepasa II, Peterson, Silberman and Billingsley includes, but is not limited to the following:
 - a) Transferring Quepasa II investors' funds to Mobile;
- Failing to disclose to investors that Peterson's previous company, LoanGo,
 defaulted on all of its promissory notes and LoanGo's investors lost all of their investments; and
- c) Failing to disclose to investors that Quepasa II's CFO, Silberman, had been the subject of a customer complaint alleging he committed fraud and misrepresentation when he was a securities salesman with Prudential, and Prudential paid \$150,000.00 to settle that complaint.
 - 252. This conduct violates A.R.S. § 44-1991.

IX. CONTROL PERSON LIABILITY PURSUANT TO A.R.S. § 44-1999

- 253. From at least April 19, 2013, through at least December 8, 2015, Peterson was or held himself out as Mobile's Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer.
- 254. From at least April 19, 2013, through at least December 8, 2015, Silberman was or held himself out as the Chairman of the Executive Committee of Mobile's Board of Directors, and Mobile's Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer.

255. From at least April 19, 2013, through at least December 8, 2015, Peterson and Silberman directly or indirectly controlled Mobile within the meaning of A.R.S. § 44-1999. Therefore, Peterson and Silberman are jointly and severally liable to the same extent as Mobile for its violations of A.R.S. § 44-1991 from at least April 19, 2013, through at least December 8, 2015.

- 256. From at least May 16, 2013, through at least June 25, 2015, Billingsley was or held himself out as a member of Mobile's Board of Directors, and Mobile's Chief Operating Officer, President, Senior Vice President and Vice President.
- 257. From at least May 16, 2013, through at least June 25, 2015, Billingsley directly or indirectly controlled Mobile within the meaning of A.R.S. § 44-1999. Therefore, Billingsley is jointly and severally liable to the same extent as Mobile for its violations of A.R.S. § 44-1991 from at least May 16, 2013, through at least June 25, 2015.
- 258. From at least July 10, 2014, through at least July 31, 2017, Peterson was or held himself out as Quepasa II's Chairman of the Board of Directors and its President.
- 259. From at least July 10, 2014, through at least July 31, 2017, Silberman was or held himself out as a Director of Quepasa II and its Treasurer and Secretary.
- 260. From at least July 10, 2014, through at least July 31, 2017, Peterson and Silberman directly or indirectly controlled Quepasa II within the meaning of A.R.S. § 44-1999. Therefore, Peterson and Silberman are jointly and severally liable to the same extent as Quepasa II for its violations of A.R.S. § 44-1991 from at least July 10, 2014, through at least July 31, 2017.

X. REQUESTED RELIEF

The Division requests that the Commission grant the following relief:

- Order Respondents to permanently cease and desist from violating the Securities Act, pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-2032;
- Order Respondents to take affirmative action to correct the conditions resulting from Respondents' acts, practices, or transactions, including a requirement to make restitution pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-2032;

- 3. Order Respondents to pay the state of Arizona administrative penalties of up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each violation of the Securities Act, pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-2036;
- 4. Order that Respondents Michael D. Silberman and Stacey Silberman be subject to any order of restitution, rescission, administrative penalties, or other appropriate affirmative action.
 - 5. Order any other relief that the Commission deems appropriate.

XI. HEARING OPPORTUNITY

Each Respondent, including Respondent Stacey Silberman, may request a hearing pursuant to A.R.S. § 44-1972 and A.A.C. R14-4-306. **If a Respondent requests a hearing, the requesting Respondent must also answer this Notice.** A request for hearing must be in writing and received by the Commission within 10 business days after service of this Notice of Opportunity for Hearing. The requesting Respondent must deliver or mail the request to Docket Control, Arizona Corporation Commission, 1200 W. Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007. Filing instructions may be obtained from Docket Control by calling (602) 542-3477 or on the Commission's Internet web site at http://www.azcc.gov/divisions/hearings/docket.asp.

If a request for a hearing is timely made, the Commission shall schedule the hearing to begin 20 to 60 days from the receipt of the request unless otherwise provided by law, stipulated by the parties, or ordered by the Commission. If a request for a hearing is not timely made the Commission may, without a hearing, enter an order granting the relief requested by the Division in this Notice of Opportunity for Hearing.

Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter, as well as request this document in an alternative format, by contacting Carolyn D. Buck, ADA Coordinator, voice phone number (602) 542-3931, e-mail cdbuck@azcc.gov. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation. Additional information about the administrative action procedure may be found at http://www.azcc.gov/divisions/securities/enforcement/AdministrativeProcedure.asp

XII. ANSWER REQUIREMENT

Pursuant to A.A.C. R14-4-305, if a Respondent requests a hearing, the requesting Respondent must deliver or mail an Answer to this Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Docket Control, Arizona Corporation Commission, 1200 W. Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, within 30 calendar days after the date of service of this Notice. Filing instructions may be obtained from Docket Control by calling (602) 542-3477 or on the Commission's Internet web site at http://www.azcc.gov/divisions/hearings/docket.asp.

Additionally, the answering Respondent must serve the Answer upon the Division. Pursuant to A.A.C. R14-4-303, service upon the Division may be made by mailing or by hand-delivering a copy of the Answer to the Division at 1300 West Washington, 3rd Floor, Phoenix, Arizona, 85007, addressed to James D. Burgess.

The Answer shall contain an admission or denial of each allegation in this Notice and the original signature of the answering Respondent or Respondent's attorney. A statement of a lack of sufficient knowledge or information shall be considered a denial of an allegation. An allegation not denied shall be considered admitted.

When the answering Respondent intends in good faith to deny only a part or a qualification of an allegation, the Respondent shall specify that part or qualification of the allegation and shall admit the remainder. A Respondent waives any affirmative defense not raised in the Answer.

The officer presiding over the hearing may grant relief from the requirement to file an Answer for good cause shown.

Dated this 9th day of July, 2020.

/S/

Mark Dinell Director of Securities